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Donald S. Porter
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Robert Mariani)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
Application No.:	Unassigned)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
Filed:	April 21, 2004)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
)	
Docket No.:	02104CIP (3600-419-01))	

For: A METHOD OF FORMING SINTERED VALVE METAL MATERIAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 21, 2004

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.